

SAME Omaha Post Monthly Meeting - September 2024

Date: 5 September 2024

Time: 12:00 PM Central Time (CT)

Future Post Meeting Dates

- Thursday, September 12, 2024 – Joint Meeting with Minneapolis/St.Paul, Rock Island, and Greater KC Posts.
- Tuesday, October 8, 2024- Fire Safety Donna Kohlan
- Thursday, November 14, 2024 - May Tornado Response Topic, Public Sector Event
- Thursday, December 12, 2024 - USACE Omaha District Update, Sheila Newman

Call to Order- President: Stephanie Heibel called the meeting to order.

Roll Call and Determination of Quorum- Secretary: Chris Artz conducted the roll call and confirmed a quorum was present.

President: Stephanie Heibel

Secretary: Chris Artz

Treasurer: Brian Schuele

Vice President for Service Members and Veterans: Rob Hufford

Vice President for IGE: Bobbi Jo Lang

Vice President for Resilience: Don Fucik

Vice President for Professional Development and Personal Growth: Kandi Srb

Vice President for Leadership and Mentoring: Tom Svoboda

Director for Communications: Jill Zehr

Director for Awards and Recognition: Christina McManis

Director for Young Members and Student Outreach: Stephanie Ling

Director for Fellows: Natasha Gromak

Past President: Ryan Watzke

Members at Large in attendance:

Jake Batenhorst – Programs Committee Chair; Brec Wilshusen , Roger Wozny

Approval of Minutes - - July and August meeting minutes were presented for approval. Motion to approve was made by Tom Svoboda. Seconded by Don Fucik. Minutes were approved without objections.

Reports

President's Report: Stephanie Heibel-No new updates from National. She may not be available for the next monthly meeting. Suggestion to have a non-president lead meetings for practice instead of relying solely on past presidents. Person will need to introduce other Posts during the joint meeting next week. Planning session for the Omaha Post unlikely in September due to the end of the fiscal year but tentatively planned for early October.

Treasurer's Report: Brian Schuele-Few transactions in recent months. Proposed inviting the Avenue Scholars Chairman to present at an upcoming Board meeting to discuss their program, which aligns with charitable initiatives.

Vice President for IGE Report: Bobbi Jo Lang- Discussion on purchasing a tent (10'x10') with the Omaha Post logo, with options including: Steel tent: \$330 or Aluminum tent: \$430. Motion to approve the purchase of an aluminum tent for \$430 and up to \$200 for a side-panel was made by Stephanie Heibel. Seconded by Tom Svoboda. Motion approved.

The Big Red Welcome at UNL was successful despite the heat. Membership growth: The post saw growth of 130 individual members, totaling 698 members, and 119 organizational members. Recent event successes were highlighted.

Upcoming events: Student Kickoff Event: September 11, 2024, at Embassy Suites, Lincoln, from 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM. Social/Recruitment Happy Hour: October 3, 2024, at Legends Off Pacific.

Working on swag for upcoming events, including SMP, E-week, and others. The 50 Mile March event went well.

Vice President for Resilience: Don Fucik – Planning to set up a resiliency workshop following PLW (Post Leadership Workshop). The workshop will involve Emergency Management folks from Douglas and Sarpy Counties, Offutt Air Force Base emergency management, Papio-NRD, and others, with a focus on how the Omaha Post can support them. Don also met with APEX accelerators and discussed how proposals are evaluated. This could be a potential ID session (Industry Day session) topic.

Vice President for Professional Development and Personal Growth Report: Kandi Srb- Work is ongoing to transfer the old website domain to a new one. Chris Artz provided an update on the domain, email, and shared folder for the post.

Vice President for Leadership and Mentoring Report: Tom Svoboda- Report on SMP and Scholarships below.

Director for Communications Report: Jill Zehr- Recently posted events on the Post's news page, including the Big Red Welcome and the 50 Mile March. The President's message and image will be posted soon.

Director for Young Members and Student Outreach Report: Stephanie Ling (email)- MCC student chapter is hosting a kickoff meeting on 9/18 and I'm working to identify recent graduates who would benefit from membership sponsorships as well as details about cost, etc

Director for Fellows Report: Natasha Gromak- Fellows meetings are being organized on a quarterly basis. The next meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2024, at 8:00 AM. Fellows Townhall is scheduled for today.

Committee Reports

Industry Day: Kandi Srb-Industry Day committee is meeting regularly again. Still working on securing a Keynote speaker. The Industry Day logo was approved and will be promoted after next week's meeting. Discussions are ongoing about creating an 85th-year commemorative coin.

Programs: Jake Batenhorst- The September 12th Post Meeting will focus on Midwest Flood Recovery Coordinating with Bobbi Jo Lang to target a speaker from the Minneapolis/St. Paul Post and Omaha USACE Districts. October meeting speaker has been secured. Coordinating with Field Club for 2025 meeting dates. Programs Committee Meeting will be scheduled soon. Bobbi Jo is coordinating the November meeting. January meeting will be coordinated with NSPE at Scott Conference Center.

Scholarships & Camps: Joe Shields by Tom Svoboda: Scholarships are available on the Post's website. Advisors are encouraged to remind student members to apply. Post gave out a few camp scholarships this year and one mentor scholarship to a USACE Omaha District employee.

SMP – Anne Peterson (email)- SMP had a Steering Committee meeting on August 22. The program will have its Orientation Meeting on September 19th at Scott Conference Center. This meeting involves teachers and mentors who will be involved in our program this year.

Small Business: Veronica Doga - The virtual Matchmaking Event held on August 28, 2024, was successful, with: 7 buyers, 51 suppliers, 66 meetings scheduled, and 57 meetings held. Meet the Buyers Conference will be held next week.

Matt Hibbert, Omaha District Small Business Office is planning an FY25 Industry Day for October 30, 2024, in collaboration with Kansas City District, and Rock Island District .. Kandi will connect Veronica with SAME Industry Day programs committee.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Open Discussion

Veronica Doga asked for confirmation on who will be attending SBC in November. Many members on the call will be in attendance including Bobbi, Tom, Stephanie and Chris.

Adjournment by Stephanie Heibel

**Minutes Prepared By: Chris Artz, Secretary on 9/6/2024